

# TALES FROM THE MIST

Shire of Wintermist, Caid

November 2011 Issue

WEBSITE: [WWW.SCA-WINTERMIST.ORG](http://WWW.SCA-WINTERMIST.ORG)  
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## From the Deputy Seneschal

As you all know I'll be stepping up soon as the new Seneschal for the Shire of Wintermist, and I have high hopes for our budding little (not so little now) territory of the great Kingdom of Caid. We are on our way to having almost all our new and old officers warranted, which is important if we plan to ever reach for Barony. I've seen new energy and participation among those of our growing populous, and I'm extremely proud of all those that have stepped up to do their part. Being an officer is at most times a thankless job, and I appreciate all the work from those that undertake the responsibility, in addition to all those that offer to volunteer in the running of our local events.

On a less pleasant note, there is one thing that has the potential to tear our Shire apart, and I feel I need to address the issue; gossip. Such behavior can absolutely destroy a group such as ours, and I would hate to see that happen. Personally I have caught myself doing such things, talking about old wounds, or gossiping about different households or people, and I have vowed to end such behavior in myself. A seneschal should be impartial, an individual that can step in and solve conflicts and I need to be an example. I feel as if we are on the cusp of change, and so this is an opportune time to let old issues fade, rivals be made into allies, and lines be erased. We need to remember that we are all part of this Shire, and we are stronger if we stand together.

Forever in service to the dream,  
Kali Raqs Xahar,  
Deputy Seneschal.

### Wintermist Calendar

- November 9: Business Meeting, Rusty's Pizza on Auburn
- November 10: Newcomer's meeting, Wihstan's house. 6:00pm to whenever
- November 10: Fellowship of the String meets at the Newcomer's meeting
- Sundays at **10 am** Fighter Practice at Patriot's Park
- December 3: Wintermist Birthday Tourney



### Caid Calendar

- November 12: Frost Dragon, Naeveheim
- November 19: Calafia & Isles Anniversaries
- November 26: Medieval Marketplace, Hetherwyne
- December 3: Yules for: Calafia, Dreiburgen, Dun Or, Nordwache & Darach

## From the Chronicler

The war has ended! I know I had a great time hanging out with my fellow Wintermistians during the potluck where excellent food was to be had by all. And now, as of November 5th, we have another King and Queen on the throne. ALL HAIL SVEN and CASSANDRA! Coronation was very nice and they appreciated the gifts from our fair Shire.

Soon our Neighbors across the hill in Naevehjem will be celebrating their anniversary and need our assistance in once again fending off the Frost Dragon. They have a arts competition and a dessert competition that will be held at the feast that night. Will you take up the call?

Finally, our own Anniversary event is coming up on December 3rd. We may not be having a feast, but we will still have a good time. Hope to see you all there.

For the Dream,  
A'Isha, al-Raqqasa

## From the Exchequer

Greetings from the Exchequer!

This has been a busy month and I have a few announcements to share with you all.

This year all the Caidian territories had their books audited for the last 3 years of transactions. Wintermist completed their audit at Coronation and I am happy to report that we passed our audit without any problems! Yay! We are also one step closer to having an actual financial policy in place. Our proposed policy was given to our Kingdom Exchequer for approval at Coronation and we should hear back shortly if it has been approved. Having this policy in place will help make things run smoother and make the Officer's lives alot easier!

New Event Packets will also be available soon! These packet will include all the necessary forms as well as helpful tips and ideas to help would-be Event stewards in running events. I will have example packets available at the next shire meeting. If you have any ideas/ tips that you think would be helpful to have in the packets please email them to me at: [michaelavecht@gmail.com](mailto:michaelavecht@gmail.com).

I would also like to give a big **THANK YOU** to Whitstan. Whitstan will be stepping up as Wintermist Exchequer at Birthday Tourney this year! I would like to also thank everyone on my finance committee for volunteering! Whitstan will be picking his own committee when he steps up.

Last, but not least, we are looking for someone to be Deputy Exchequer for equipment. This is a great position to start out in and is not very difficult! The Deputy is responsible for compiling and updating the Shire's property list. They are responsible for keeping track of equipment loaned out and making sure Shire Property is accounted for. Please see me for more details!

Thank you!

THLady Tahira al- Fahida  
Outgoing Exchequer

## Meet Your Neighbors

The Honorable Lady Tabitha Leah of Samarra, (aka Samrah) is an Eastern woman who travels in the caravans from Damascus to the Gaza Desert in the Levant region of the Middle East. Her first name comes from the story of a Jewish woman named Tabitha who soon after being raised from the dead, made everyone dinner. The name Samarra was the name of the ancient capital of Persia. The name Samrah came from an admirer who told her that was the most beautiful name. She chose a Middle Eastern persona because that region has always been of interest to her, so much so that 5-6 years prior to joining the SCA in 1985 she was a member of a bellydance troupe.

She was first introduced to the Society when her troupe performed at a Medieval Faire held in Wofford Heights where the SCA was also present for a demo. Shortly after, her brother, who attended UCLA at the time, introduced her to the lord of her first household and she has been hooked ever since.

Tabitha's favorite events are wars and tourneys and she has many fond memories of events in the Outlands. She also recounted a story of Estrella War on a Sunday where she entered a Laurel Prize Tourney. The Arts and Science entries were judged by Laurels under a large pavilion and they were honor bound to say only nice things and give constructive comments. They also left trinkets for those entries they particularly liked.

Tabitha enjoys supporting the fighting and arts aspects of the SCA. She enjoys Levant style embroidery, which she considers her forte. She also enjoys making lace, researching medieval botanicals, and when it comes to cooking, she looks at what they had and how they cooked it then puts these things together into a meal, rather than following a specific recipe. Her future aspirations are to someday attend Pennsic, Lilies and maybe even Gulf Wars.

## From Our Webwright: Orange, Dates, & Pecan Shortbread

Shortbreads, historically, seem to be quite commonly paired with aromatics and nuts. I've crafted these to take advantage of the lovely local produce we can find in the Shire of Wintermist. Orange and dates truly complement each other with the aromatic scent of cloves. Additionally, these are great for events because their flavor improves over time.

### Ingredients:

- 8 oz pitted dates
- Zest of one orange
- Juice of one orange
- 1 cup butter, softened
- 1 1/2 cups sugar
- 1 large egg
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 2 1/2 cups flour
- 1 1/2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 1/2 cups pecans, toasted and finely chopped
- 1/4 teaspoon – ground clove powder



Photos by Miklos

### Instructions:

1. Dough needs to chill before baking; preheat oven to 350 degrees when ready to bake.
2. Butter and line a 9x5 loaf pan with parchment paper so that the parchment extends over the long side of the pan; set aside.
3. In a food processor, combine the dates, orange zest, and orange juice. (finely chopped texture)
4. In a large bowl, cream butter and vanilla together until butter is creamy.
5. Add sugar and egg, beating until fully mixed.
6. In a small bowl, whisk together flour, baking powder, and salt.
7. Add flour to butter mixture, beating until well-combined.
8. Mix in pecans.(or substitute soy nuts for nut-sensitive allergies)
9. Divide dough into 3 portions.
10. Press one portion into the loaf pan.
11. Beat date mixture into another portion of the dough, and press onto the pecan mixture in the loaf pan.
12. Press remaining pecan portion onto the date portion.
13. Cover pan and chill for at least 2 hours.
14. Prepare baking pans by lining with parchment paper and preheating oven to 350 degrees.
15. Once chilled, remove layered dough from loaf pan.
16. Cut dough, lengthwise, into 4 pieces.
17. Cut each piece into 1/4" slices.
18. Place pieces onto prepared baking pan, about 2" apart.
19. Bake at 350 degrees for 9-10 minutes.
20. Allow to cool for 5 minutes before moving onto a rack.



## Meet Your Neighbors, continued

Lady Merit Ankh Sekeret chose a very early period Egyptian persona who would have existed sometime after Cleopatra's reign during the Roman period. She was a priestess in Upper Egypt. She chose this persona because, having actually lived in Egypt for several years in the early 1980s, she has a deep interest in Egyptology and wanted to build her persona around their culture.

Merit had heard of the group as early as the 1970s while she lived in Houston but didn't join the SCA until 1990 when she moved with her family to Wintermist and she met Lady Beatrice. Her favorite types of events include Academies and Collegiums, basically any event where she can attend classes and learn new things. She will take time and plan a day around different classes. She really enjoys the melting pot of the SCA where different groups from Vikings to Scots, Mongols, Elizabethans, and Italians can all mingle together even though they never would have met in history and loves hearing about the different cultures that other Society members have researched. For her SCA future she hopes to get her name finally approved.

## Wintermist Officers:



**Seneschal:** Lord Kristofer Olafsson

email: [seneschal@sca-wintermist.org](mailto:seneschal@sca-wintermist.org)

Deputy Seneschal: Lady Kali Raqs Xahar

**Interim Arts & Science:** Da'ud



**Chatelaine:** Lord Wihtstan Gravenor

**Chirurgion:** Saphira



**Chronicler:** Lady A'isha al-Raqqasa

email: [chronicler@sca-wintermist.org](mailto:chronicler@sca-wintermist.org)

**Constable:** Vacant



**Exchequer:** Lady Tahira Al-Fahida

email: [exchequer@sca-wintermist.org](mailto:exchequer@sca-wintermist.org)

**Herald:** Mistress Moirín Chiardhubh ní Bhardáin

email: [herald@sca-wintermist.org](mailto:herald@sca-wintermist.org)



**Interim List Mistress:** Lady Katherine of Hornechurch

email: [lysts@sca-wintermist.org](mailto:lysts@sca-wintermist.org)

**Marshal:** Master Martin Fitz James

email: [marshal@sca-wintermist.org](mailto:marshal@sca-wintermist.org)



**Webwright:** Lord Miklos Jafri



Current Champion of  
Wintermist and Protector of the  
Flock



Thorbjorn Ulfsson

Photo by Isha

Articles should be submitted to the chronicler, either in person or by e-mail ([chronicler@sca-wintermist.org](mailto:chronicler@sca-wintermist.org)), and non-officer related articles should be accompanied by a media release form to allow permission to publish in Tales from the Mist.

"Tales from the Mist" is created using MS Publisher templates. This month's template is called "Studio".

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